Pennsylvania
Department of Human Services

DHS-Office of Income Maintenance
SNAP
P.O. Box 2675
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2675

October 20, 2025

Dear SNAP Recipient:

The U.S. Congress's failure to pass a budget has caused the federal government to shut down. **That means that as of October 16, SNAP benefits will not be paid until the federal government provides funding for SNAP** . November and combined October/ November 2025 SNAP benefits cannot be paid at this time. When the federal government shutdown ends and Pennsylvania receives SNAP funding, we will work with our federal partners to resume payments as quickly as possible. We will notify SNAP recipients when this occurs. At this time, the federal government shutdown is not impacting Medical Assistance (Medicaid) or cash benefits.

During the federal government shutdown, the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) will continue all other normal operations for all benefits, except for Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), which is on hold at this time due to lack of federal funding. Therefore, **you must continue to report changes and submit any semi-annual reviews or renewals you receive**. SNAP applications will continue to be accepted and processed; payments, however, are on hold. Additionally, new federal work reporting rules signed into law by President Trump will still take effect for some SNAP recipients on November 1. Learn more about these changes and if you are affected at www.dhs.pa.gov/work.

We recognize and fully understand the frustration and worry this update may cause. All county assistance offices are open and staff are available to help you during this time. Please be patient and respectful in your interactions with DHS staff. If you have questions about your benefits, please contact the statewide Customer Service Center at 1-877-395-8930. If you live in Philadelphia, please call 1-215-560-7226.

The federal government shutdown is a federal issue. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and DHS cannot resolve this without Congress taking action to reopen the government. If you need immediate food assistance, call 211 or visit www.feedingpa.org or pa-navigate.org/

Thank you,

Pennsylvania Department of Human Services